

Message Text

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61

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCCT-01 OMB-01 EB-07 IO-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

PM-03 /053 W

----- 068199

R 251051Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1229

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: SECOND CASE AGAINST WALI KHAN AND NAP

REF: A. ISLAMABAD 3934

B. KARACHI 1529 (NOTAL)

C. ISLAMABAD 6443

1. REF A REPORTED A SEPARATE CASE REGISTERED IN QUETTA IN APRIL AGAINST WALI KHAN AND OTHERS BEFORE THE SIND-BALUCHISTAN SPECIAL TRIBUNAL ON CHARGES OF CONSPIRACY, SABOTAGE AND BOMB BLAST ACTIVITY. DURING PAST TWO WEEKS, PAKISTAN'S GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS HAS DRIBBLED OUT BITS OF INFORMATION INDICATING THAT CASE MAY SOON COME UP BEFORE TRIBUNAL. SEPARATE NEWS ITEMS APPEARING JULY 18 NOTED THAT WALI KHAN AND SHER MOHAMMED MARRI (KNOWN AS GENERAL SHEROFF) WILL SHORTLY BE TRANSFERRED TO SUKKUR (SIND) FOR TRIAL.

2. CONGEN KARACHI REPORTS THAT KNOWLEDGEABLE ADVOCATE
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IN THAT CITY CONFIRMED THAT SUKKUR TRIAL CONCERNS

CHARGES MADE IN APRIL. TWO PRELIMINARY HEARINGS INVOLVING WALI (AND 70 ALLEGED NAP CO-DEFENDANTS) HAVE BEEN ALREADY HELD IN QUETTA. ABOUT HALF OF THE ACCUSED ARE REGISTERED AS "ABSCONDING." KARACHI CONGEN SPECULATES (REF B) THAT THE GOP MIGHT TURN THE PROCEEDINGS IN SUKKUR INTO A "SHOW TRIAL" IN AN ATTEMPT FINALLY TO DISCREDIT WALI. MR. JUSTICE QURESHI HAS SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE REASONABLY FAIR IN PREVIOUS SABOTAGE CASES INVOLVING OBSCURE NAP FIGURES, SEVERAL OF WHOM HAVE BEEN ACQUITTED. WHETHER HIS JUDICIAL INTEGRITY WOULD SURVIVE THE OFFICIAL PRESSURE WHICH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE APPLIED IN WALI'S CASE IS PROBLEMATIC. WE HAVE NO INDICATION OF WHEN WALI'S TRIAL WILL BEGIN; GIVEN THE TIME ELAPSED SINCE CHARGES WERE FIRST FILED, IT MIGHT WELL DRAG ON.

3. EMBASSY PLANS TO REPORT ON HEARINGS BEFORE SUPREME COURT (REF C), TENTATIVELY EXPECTED TO FINISH JULY 25.
LUPPI

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Message Attributes

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